

• Abroad •

Holy Loch. The anti-bomb sit-downs are becoming a new kind of game, with established rules and rituals for both teams—sit-downers and police—and prescribed attitudes for spectators. The sit-downers sit, preferably *en masse*, at a spot that interferes with traffic, displaying signs and reciting slogans or songs. The *London Times*' report on the September 16 sit goes thus: "Gently, almost decorously, [the police] began to remove the sedentary pickets after inquiring whether they would care to leave of their own volition. They carried 281 of them in vans a distance of about 25 yards to an extemporary police office, where they were charged with committing a breach of the peace. . . . The police carried their limp bodies (absolute limpness is a must) as if moving valuable dummies for spring cleaning at Madame Tussaud's. Movable crush barriers had been used to segregate the sitters from those who did not wish to be arrested. . . . Following their labors last night some of the police gratefully adjourned to the Glen Tower Hotel for tea and cakes, and later gathered at the piano for community singing of 'Bonny Mary o' Argyll' and other native airs."

London. In the six-year period 1955-61, TV sets in active use in Britain (which can be accurately measured through payment for the required annual licenses) have increased from 4 million to 12 million. In the same years, the average weekly movie attendance has decreased at exactly the same rate, dropping from 24 million to 8 million.

Rome. Giuseppe Saragat, leader of the Social Democratic Party (separate from and much to the right of Pietro Nenni's Socialist Party), looms as a strong candidate for the Presidency in the elections scheduled for early next year. His recent conversion to the Church supplies a heretofore missing ingredient in making him eligible. The government moved with unusual speed in giving formal approval to a "Josephine Saragat Foundation" in memory of his deceased wife. His son, Dr. Giovanni Saragat, accompanied Premier Fanfani on his trip to Moscow, but disapproved publicly of the appeasement tendency that Fanfani displayed. In general, the Social Democrats under Saragat have been more consistently anti-Communist than the majority of the Christian Democrats.

Milan. The sale of Russian oil to free nations is now 325,000 barrels daily, and should reach at least a million barrels by 1970. Italy is the principal Russian customer. Soviet Foreign Trade Minister Patolishev spent many hours of his recent visit to Italy with Enrico Mattei, head of ENI, the Italian state monopoly of energy sources. The conservative magazine *Borghese* commented that "they discussed various projects which, if carried through, would badly injure the position of British and especially U.S. oil companies in Europe. They arranged for stepping up the supply of Soviet oil to ENI, and a cartel was

planned for exploitation of oil resources in Rumania and Hungary with ENI cooperation. ENI further agreed to supply methane and chemical products to the Soviet Union." These, like all Italian contracts with the Soviet Union, are channeled so the Italian Communist Party gets a substantial cut.

Rome. There are more subtle ways than military conquest by which a people leaves its mark on the world. In the last century more than 25 million Italians have emigrated. Until a few years ago they went mostly to North and South America and (more lately) to Australia. The pattern is now being changed through development of the Common Market. This year 425,000 out of the predicted 500,000 emigrants will have gone to western Europe, 140,000 of them to West Germany. More than half are expected to settle permanently.



"Don't you want to see my plastic bomb samples?"

Dover. French interests, led by former Minister of Public Works Jules Moch, are pressing hard for a joint Anglo-French decision to go ahead with a bridge over the Channel. (They dismiss the once favored tunnel project as "*le tunnel de Grandpapa*.") Moch argues that the bridge is an integral auxiliary to Britain's joining the Common Market, and would have enormous economic importance for tomorrow's "Europe of the Seven." He estimates the cost at about \$600 million, all to be raised by private capital, and wants Britain and France to begin simultaneous construction, with 4,000-man crews pushing forward from each shore.

London. Sherlock Holmes would still feel at home with the *Times*' Personal column. One can almost hear him point out to Dr. Watson the following item from one of last week's issues: "Magarkura speaking Mongolphil without ties seeks employment where such attributes can be usefully employed. Financial reward immaterial.—Write Box R.894, The Times, E. C. 4."

Copyright of National Review Bulletin is the property of National Review Inc. and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.